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On the Line:

People . . . Places . . . Things

By BOB CONSIDINE

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DID YOU REALIZE that Francis Gary Powers and the other U-2 pilots amply earned that \$2,500 a month? You will when you read the David Wise-Tom Ross account of "The U-2 Affair," to be published by Random House three weeks from now. The discomfort alone:

"For more than eight hours he would be gripped by the ugly pressure suit. The slightest wrinkle would pinch at him hour upon hour, raising blood blisters and welts. His neck had been rubbed raw by the cork ring, which served as the hermetic seal for his helmet. Often it would draw blood.

"The oxygen system forced him to reverse the normal process of breathing. Instead of exerting himself slightly to inhale, he had to use pressure to exhale. He had been suffering lately from severe headaches and migraines brought on by the artificial method of breathing he often used for eight or nine hours."

Plus, of course, the possibility of being shot down and killed or imprisoned.

